

Nelson Mandela Foundation and its two sister organizations, the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and the Mandela-Rhodes Foundation;

Whereas, on July 18, 2007, Nelson Mandela convened the Elders, a group of world leaders including Desmond Tutu, Graca Machel, and former United States President Jimmy Carter, to contribute their wisdom and insight towards addressing some of the world's toughest problems;

Whereas the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize was jointly awarded to Nelson Mandela and Frederik Willem de Klerk "for their work for the peaceful termination of the apartheid regime, and for laying the foundations for a new democratic South Africa";

Whereas Congress contributed to the attainment of the political ideals and goals for which Nelson Mandela struggled, by enacting the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-440) on October 2, 1986, and has honored Nelson Mandela by passing the Mandela Freedom Resolution in the House of Representatives on September 18, 1984 (H. Res. 430, 98th Congress), and in the Senate on October 10, 1984 (S. Res. 386, 98th Congress), by adopting the resolution concerning United States support for the new South Africa on October 5, 1994 (H. Res. 560, 103rd Congress), and by awarding Nelson Mandela the Congressional Gold Medal on July 29, 1998;

Whereas former United States President Bill Clinton honored Nelson Mandela with the Philadelphia Liberty Medal in 1993, and former United States President George W. Bush honored Nelson Mandela with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2002;

Whereas, on July 18 of each year, people around the world celebrate Nelson Mandela Day, in recognition of Nelson Mandela's birthday, by devoting their time to community service in honor of his legacy;

Whereas, in 1995, Nelson Mandela wrote: "I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended."; and

Whereas Nelson Mandela leaves a legacy that transcends his time and place in history, which will guide and inspire generations to come: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life, accomplishments, and legacy of former South African President Nelson Mandela;

(2) extends its heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the members of the family of the late President Nelson Mandela and his fellow citizens;

(3) requests the Secretary of State to communicate these expressions of honor and condolence to Nelson Mandela's family and to the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa; and

(4) requests the President to identify an appropriate and lasting program of the United States Government to honor Nelson Mandela's legacy.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2546. Mr. REID (for Mr. WHITEHOUSE) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 263, designating the week of September 23 through September 29, 2013, as "National Estuaries Week".

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2546. Mr. REID (for Mr. WHITEHOUSE) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 263, designating the week of September 23 through September 29, 2013, as "National Estuaries Week"; as follows:

In the seventh whereas clause of the preamble, strike "extreme weather events" and insert "hurricanes and storms".

In the ninth whereas clause of the preamble, insert "some" before "bays in the United States".

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 13, 2013, at 11 a.m., in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 299, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 299) congratulating the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee on the celebration of its 100th anniversary and commending its significant contribution to empower and revitalize developing communities around the world.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 299) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of Tuesday, November 19, 2013, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL ESTUARIES WEEK

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 263 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 263) designating the week of September 23 through September 29 as "National Estuaries Week."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the Whitehouse amendment to the preamble, which is at the desk, be agreed to; the preamble, as amended, be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 263) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 2546) was agreed to, as follows:

In the seventh whereas clause of the preamble, strike "extreme weather events" and insert "hurricanes and storms".

In the ninth whereas clause of the preamble, insert "some" before "bays in the United States".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

(The resolution will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent we now proceed to S. Res. 320.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 320) designating December 14, 2013, as "Wreaths Across America Day."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 320) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF NELSON ROLIHLEHLA MANDELA

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to S. Res. 321.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 321) honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela and expressing condolences on his passing.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, last week the world lost a true hero with

the passing of Nelson Mandela. His determined and courageous advocacy helped end South Africa's disgraceful system of apartheid, while his enlightened leadership set an example for national reconciliation.

Apartheid was a policy of hate. It was a severe form of segregation that denied the non-White population their basic human rights. Millions of non-Whites lost their homes and were forced from their lands.

In order to travel or work in a restricted White area, special passes were necessary. Non-Whites could not participate in national government and were segregated in almost every way imaginable—from education to transportation to health care.

Nelson Mandela dedicated much of his life to ending this injustice. After years of protesting the harsh policies of the South African Government, he was imprisoned for 27 years—18 of which were spent at the infamous maximum security prison on Robben Island that was surrounded by shark-infested waters.

There he suffered in a cell that he described as “perpetually damp” and only measured 7 feet by 8 feet.

From prison, Nelson Mandela was an inspiration to those fighting apartheid both inside South Africa and throughout the world. And as pressure grew, the South African Government initiated secret talks with Mandela for the first time in 1986.

That same year, I was a Member of the House of Representatives when Congress voted to impose sanctions against the South Africa Government—overriding a Presidential veto to do so.

Two months before that historic and long overdue vote, the President gave a speech opposing comprehensive sanctions against South Africa. That same day, I went to the House floor to respond, asking:

How many children have to die? How many funeral mourners have to die? How much bloodshed will be spent before the President decides that words are no longer enough—that ‘constructive engagement’ has done nothing to prevent 2,000 deaths since late 1984?

In that same statement, I spoke about the “concerned citizens all over the country who have emphasized the need to do something specific to demonstrate our abhorrence of the policies of the South African government.” Those concerned citizens included the Solano County board of supervisors, who sent me a resolution in 1985 that declared, “Acquiescence to South Africa's apartheid policy, whatever the rationalization would be a rejection of the ultimate sacrifices made by those who died to ensure justice for all human beings . . .”

It was the grassroots movement against apartheid in the 1980s that pushed Congress to enact sanctions, and this grassroots movement was inspired by the example of Nelson Mandela.

In 1990, Nelson Mandela was finally released from prison, and in 1994 he was elected as South Africa's first Black President.

Despite more than 40 years of suffering under the brutality of apartheid, Nelson Mandela chose reconciliation over resentment.

During his inauguration, he declared, “The time for the healing of the wounds has come . . . the moment to bridge the chasms that divide us has come. The time to build is upon us.”

The legacy of Nelson Mandela lies not just in his courage to fight repression but in his courage to forgive his enemies.

In his words, “Courageous people do not fear forgiving for the sake of peace.”

My deepest sympathies go out to Nelson Mandela's family, the nation of South Africa, and all those who are mourning the loss of this great man.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I further ask that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 321) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

MEASURE READ FOR THE FIRST TIME—S. 1824

Mr. REID. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1824) to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to exempt certain lead pipes, fittings, fixtures, solder, and flux that contain brass.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS ASSISTANCE TAX CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2013

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, having received from the House H. R. 3458, the bill is considered read three times and passed, and the motion to reconsider considered made and laid upon the table.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2013, AT 1 PM

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:11 p.m., adjourned until Sunday, December 15, 2013, at 1 p.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate on Friday, December 13, 2013:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PETER A. SELFRIDGE, OF MINNESOTA, TO BE CHIEF OF PROTOCOL, AND TO HAVE THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE, VICE CAPRICIA PENAVIC MARSHALL, RESIGNED.

DOUGLAS ALAN SILLIMAN, OF TEXAS, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE STATE OF KUWAIT.

ROBERT A. WOOD, OF NEW YORK, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER-COUNSELOR, FOR THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR DURING HIS TENURE OF SERVICE AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

PORTIA Y. WU, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF LABOR, VICE JANE OATES.

NATIONAL FOUNDATION ON THE ARTS AND THE HUMANITIES

THOMAS EDGAR ROTHMAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS FOR A TERM EXPIRING SEPTEMBER 3, 2016. (NEW POSITION)

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate: Friday, December 13, 2013:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DEBORAH LEE JAMES, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

HEATHER ANNE HIGGINBOTTOM, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE FOR MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCES.